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LASHBACK

serving the Past for the Future

Volume 48 **August 1998** **Number 3**

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Washington County Historical Society
118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Flashback is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. Send all material for publication to the editor at 118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701. There is no payment for articles published in *Flashback*. The Editor retains the right to edit all submitted articles prior to publication.

Membership is invited of those interested in the preservation of Washington County's history. Dues are $15 annually. Donations, tax deductible according to current law, are gratefully received any time for special projects. Members are mailed *Flashback* every quarter. Past issues cost $5 each, current year's issues, $4 each.

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Cover photo: William "Bill" Marion Tucker and friend, Bonnie Belle Cook (now Bonnie Grosscup of Fayetteville, at the Ozark Trout Farm in Johnson, just prior to his enlistment in the USMC, December 2, 1939. See story about Tucker on page 22. (The trout farm in Johnson was initiated by Roy Brumfield, proprietor of the Mountain Inn Hotel, Fayetteville, in 1931. Production of trout ceased in 1978.) *Photograph by Lloyd O. Warren.*

FLASHBACK

Preserving the Past for the Future

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FLASHBACK is published and mailed four times a year—the first week in February, May, August, and November. Articles for *Flashback* should be submitted 60 days before the publishing date of each issue. Acceptable articles will be published in the next available issue, provided there is space.

COPY to be printed in *Flashback* may be submitted in one of several ways: 1) furnished on computer disc, preferrably in WordPerfect for either Macintosh or a PC, 2) by e-mail to the editor at [dschaefe@comp.uark.edu] or [DES32@aol.com], or 3) cleanly typed copy that can be optically scanned. Text copy, photos, and artwork are all assembled on a computer. We welcome letters or e-mail messages that tell us of planned articles or inquire about Society activities.

ANOTHER LOOK AT FAYETTEVILLE IN 1888

by David R. Malone

In 1888 M.L. DeMalher arrived in Fayetteville, Arkansas, on an assignment from *The Arkansas Gazette.* His assignment was part of a continuing series appearing in the *Gazette* about Arkansas' counties. His articles, (he called them communications) dated June 9, 1888, appeared in the June 14th edition of *The Arkansas Gazette.* The articles are an in-depth look at Washington county and three cities—Fayetteville, West Fork, and Prairie Grove. The timing of the articles is fortuitous. *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs for Washington County* were compiled at almost the same time (October, 1888). DeMalher's report contains a good deal of information not found in *Goodspeed*, and contains some biographical data not mentioned in *Goodspeed*'s extensive biographies of Washington County's most prominent citizens. Reading the two sources in concert gives a remarkably complete picture of Fayetteville and Washington County in 1888.

After describing the setting for the community, DeMalher described the University, public schools, climate, tourism opportunities, churches, population, assessed value of property, post office transactions, lodges, and societies. He concludes his article by giving a business directory of Fayetteville. Because the information presents a snapshot of the region in 1888, a portion is reprinted here:

"Summary of Business in 1887

7	General merchants	$422,000.
10	Grocers	157,000.
5	Druggists	55,000.

1	Millinery, ladies' furnishing	8,000.
2	Books and stationery	30,000.
3	Confectionery	5,500.
1	Queensware, glass, etc.	7,000.
3	Hardware	56,200.
2	Agricultural implements	22,000.
2	Saddlery and harness	6,000.
1	Sewing machine dealer	35,000.
2	Barbers	5,000.
2	Billiard halls	3,500.
	Contracting, carpentering	60,000.
5	Livery and transfer	24,860.
3	Hotels	24,000.
3	Butchers	30,000.
3	Merchant tailors	17,000.
	Grain and grain products	320,000.
	Eggs, poultry and produce	107,000.
	Hides, furs and peltry	71,000.
	Lumber, sash, doors, etc	80,000.
	Fruit	137,000.
	Miscellaneous	75,000.
	Total	$1,766,860.

In concluding this communication with the business directory of Fayetteville and with personal notices, the object is conjointly to show that business is organized, and to bring out in plain terms the character of the urban citizenship of the state and locality of which too little is understood. The parties names are invariably authorities in their profession as in their avocations; and however in such personal accounts information is brought out [that is] not accessible to every one, the object is not to indicate any measure of different success, as to give the originality belonging to the individual or firm.

The names in the following directory marked with an asterisk are those selected for notice:

Fayetteville Business Directory.

Bankers.

McIlroy & Co, bankers; Washington County Bank.

Breeder of Galloway Cattle.

I.W. Duncan.*

General Merchants.

Reed & Ferguson.*, C.C. Conner & Co,* Baum Bros.,
B.H. Stone & Co., Bolls & Co., Campbell & White, R.S. Curry.

Millinery and Ladies Furnishing.

Me dames North & Pollard.

Books and Stationery.

J.D.Van Winkle,* W.C. Cardwell.*

Drugs and Chemicals.

W.H.Whitlow,* Gregg & Smith, Benbrook & Co.,
J.H. Williams & Co., I.T. Nolen.

Hardware.

E.B. Harrison,* E.Z. Davis, Rem Smith, W.N.Crenshaw.

Queenware, Glass and Tinware.

T.J. Martin & Co.

Saddlery and Harness.

George Sutton, S.J. Jones.

Sewing Machine Dealer.

L. Matney.

Seedsman.

L.E. Archias & Bro.

Merchant Tailors.

Wasser & Hammell, Baum Bros.

Tobacco and Cigars.

W.L. Crouch.

Confectioners.

H. Russell, I. Turner, A.G. Hach.

Grocers.

Mulholland & Lake,* Wilson & Dickson,* Gilbreath & Taylor,
W.W. Harrison, Lanthrip & Miller, J.P. Scott,
Moore and Gallaher, C.M. Bigelow, J.N. Liles, H. Grother,
A.B. Lewis, W.H. Oppelo.

Butchers.

Carter & Taylor, D.M. Harbeson, J.P. Lea.

Bakery.
Johnson & Co.
Marble and Granite Dealer.
L.D. Oliver.
Wholesale Furniture.
McClellan Furniture company.*
Retail Furniture.
J.C. McClellan, J.L. Bozarth.
Music Dealer.
M.M. Albright & Co.
Watchmaking and Jewelry.
J.L. Duke,* J. Watkins.
Broom Factory.
T.A. Roach
Agricultural Implements and Carriages.
S.L. Kyle.*
Agricultural Implements.
J.M. Home, Brogle & Loy, Cato Bros.
Wagons and Carriages.
Sweltzer Wagon Company.*
Wagon Making and Wood-Work.
D.B. Jobe.
Carriage and Buggy Builder.
H.J. McRoy.
Blacksmiths.
Denton & Walker, W.L. Cole, R.T. Smith
Contractors.
Byrns & Blackmer.
Planing Mill.
Byrns & Blackmer.
Lumber, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Etc.
C. Dale,*, Cazort Bros.
Foundry and Machine Shop.
A.Volner.
Flouring Mill.
C. Boles & Co.
Steam Dyeing and Cleaning.
B.K. Farmer.

Photographers.

Mrs. S.J. Young, Hansard & Osborn.

Newspapers and Job Printing.

Fayetteville Democrat, Democrat Publishing company.*

Arkansas Sentinel, Patridge & Reagan.*

Fayetteville Republican, Damon Clarke.*

Livery and Transfer.

Simmons & Ferguson,* J.E. Vaugh, F.G. Fisher, T. Jennings.

Hotels.

Van Winkle House, R.A. Miller, * proprietor;

Mountain House, T. Jennings,* proprietor;

Tremont House, H.L. Glass, proprietor;

Lone Star Hotel, L. Matney, proprietor.

Barbers.

J.B. Cox, W.F. Russell.

Billiard Hall.

H.F. Buie, J.R. Cowan.

Real Estate Brokers.

Davidson & Jones,* Reed & Carter,* Dickson & Pettigrew.*

Practicing Attorneys.

J.D. Walker, B.R. Davidson, T.M. Gunter, A.M. Wilson,
J.V. Walker,* E.B. Wall, G.W.M. Reed, Jr., J.W. Walker,
L & L.W. Gregg, C.W. Walker, R.J. Wilson, C.R. Buckner,
D.M. West, W.L. Stuckey, S.H. West, S.E. Marrs,
I.M. Patridge, T. Wainwright.

Physicians.

T.J. Pollard, Transyvania university, class of 1828;

W.B. Welch,* Nashville university, class of 1858;

C.S. Gray,* St. Louis Medical college, class of 1872;

H.D. Wood, St. Louis Medical college, class of 1872;

A.S. Gregg, Jr., St. Louis Medical college, class of 1879.

Dentists.

S.D. Luther, R.B. Horton, J.R. Southworth, - Steene.

Municipal.

Mayor - J.H. Van Hoose; Recorder - J.L. Dickson;

Marshal - J.T. Reynolds; Treasurer - W.R. McIlroy;

City Attorney - W.L. Stuckey.

Aldermen.

First Ward - A. Volner, L.D. Oliver; second Ward - J.D. Wilson, I.M. Baber; Third Ward - A.S. Gregg, J.B. Nix

Washington County Telephone Company.

A.W. Robinson, manager.

Fayetteville Electric Light and Power Company.

E.B. Harrison, president.

Postmaster.

J.L. Cravens.

Railroad Agent - "Frisco"

W.P. McNair.

Churches.

M.E. Church, South - Rev. B.H. Greathouse.
Christian Church - Rev. N.M. Ragland.
St.Paul, Episcopal - Rev. J.J. Vauix.
Presbyterian - Rev. S.W. Davies.
Baptist Missionary - Rev. B.G. Manard.
Cumberland Presbyterian - Rev. J.T. Molloy.
St. Joseph, Catholic - Rev. J.P. Maureil.

Y.M.C.A.

President - Lee Treadwell, secretary - N.I. Duncan.

Hon. J.V. Walker, prosecuting attorney, Fourth judicial circuit, is the gentleman of the same name and initials given in the list of Fayetteville attorneys. He will be perhaps better recalled throughout the state as the Hon. "Vol" Walker, a popular abbreviation which in a single term brings out the admiration and attachment for the man, as well as appreciation of his gifts and attainments as an attorney. While a young man, being only 29 years old, he is distinguished both as a fine thinker and speaker, and as such, coupled with fidelity to principles as to friends, easily takes rank with the young democratic leaders of the state. He is the son of Ex-Senator Walker of this state, and a grandson of the great Judge "Dave" Walker who, by the very force of his abilities and command of men, more than [any]one else gave Northwest

Arkansas its political precedence in the state.

Reed & Carter, lawyers and real estate brokers, is a firm composed of George W. Reed of this city; and R.W. Carter, late of Muscatine, Iowa. The junior member, whose name leads, is a young lawyer of most favorable standing. In addition to a classical course at the Arkansas Industrial University, he is a graduate of the law school of the University of Virginia, class of '86. Judge R.W. Carter is a graduate of the law school of the University of Michigan, class of 1867. Before a residence of eight months at Muscatine, Iowa, he had been established at Ellsworth, Kansas, 6 years, and before that at Richmond, Indiana, where he was born. The firm handles all classes of city and farm property, and to facilitate prospectors who visit here, furnish free teams to those who call on them, to say nothing of their personal attention.

C. Dale, lumber, shingles, lath, sash, doors, blinds, mouldings[sic], paints, and oils, has been established at Fayetteville five years. Sales in 1887, $70,000; value of plant and stock on hand, $15,000. He is from Michigan, where the knowledge of his business was acquired. His interest is a succession of D.A. Brown & Co., the great Kansas lumber dealers, in whose employ he had been, as manager, many years. He is the oldest established lumber dealer at this point. His yellow pine is in the main, brought from mills in Jefferson county, this state. While a thorough business man he is popular socially, adding thereto great love for field sport.

J.N. Tillman, circuit clerk of the county, will complete this year a second term in that station. He is of the number in this state classed as the young democracy, and as such has done yeomanlike work for his party and the state. It is to his credit that in his official sphere he has given the utmost satisfaction; whilst on the side of the progress and development of his county and Fayetteville

his public spirit is of the order, aided by which Arkansas has come to the front. Otherwise, it is also to his credit that he trains with his party friends in a spirit become a patriot and gentleman, which is to say that his without sectional animosity. The writer owes the gentleman his heartiest thanks for efficient and untiring cooperation in the account of Washington county and Fayetteville, and accordingly is most cheerfully commended to strangers prospecting this region. He is to the manor raised, having been brought here when only 4 years old.

Reed & Ferguson, general merchants, is a firm the continuance of which is almost identical with the post-bellum trade history of Fayetteville; and at the same time has ranked as one of the most substantial. The firm of today is a modification in the personnel but not in name of the original house, John A. Reed, a son of G.W.M. Reed, having three years since supplied the place of the sire. The present member, whose name leads, was trained to business under the old firm, his connection with it dating back 8 years. He is accepted as one of the safest men in the trade. James A. Ferguson while not participating actively is a[s] sagacious as he has been a successful business man. Both are natives of the state. Sales in 1887, $100,000; average stock $25,000.

Dickson & Pettigrew, real estate brokers and abstractors of titles, have been in operation since last August. They handle city and farm property; and the meanwhile have the only complete abstract of titles found in the county. According to facility of dealing with facts of locality, knowledge of land business, and acquaintance in this county they are among the best equipped men for the business the writer has met in the state. The gentleman whose name leads is at present deputy sheriff of the county, and in the course of investigations in his office was found peculiarly familiar with the meets and bounds

of all property in the county. In this it is claimed that his partner is equally celebrated. Both of the gentlemen were born and reared in Fayetteville. Mr. Dickson has been deputy sheriff four years. Mr. Pettigrew was sheriff of the county two years.

C.C. Conner & Co., general merchants, have been in operation three years, before which the gentleman whose name leads had been a member of Boles & Conner, dissolved five years, and ten a member of Conner & Thomas, or in other words, their business is a continuation extending back eighteen years. They are also owners of a roller mill plant located at Farmington, this county; and in addition have a branch house at that point. The senior member though well up in middle age is a native of Fayetteville. The remaining members are T.P. Harrison and W.C. Conner, the first a son-in-law and the last a son. Something of the volume of their transactions is shown in the following: Sales in 1887, $87,000; average stock carried, $17,000.

Davidson & Jones, real estate dealers, conveyancers and loan brokers, have been established five years. The senior member, P.F. Davidson, has resided in the county since boyhood, and before entering upon the real estate market was engaged in farming. The junior member, Theo. F. Jones, before 1883 had been established as merchant at Maryville, Mo., and had in addition served as deputy circuit clerk and recorder of Nodaway county, Missouri, in which station was acquired the experience necessary to the success of his present undertaking. They furnish abstracts of titles, together with handling real property and negotiating loans. They have on their lists city and farm property, the latter distributed over the county. The services rendered is also notary public.

J.B. Shannon, the present county and probate clerk, is serving his second term, a fact which in a country of the

extent and character of this is a very high compliment. He retires from his present station at the end of his present term by limitation of his own, and in doing so carries with him the most hearty endorsement of his people, and of his official conferees. He is a native of the county and of the family from which the great king of all apples, the Shannon pippin takes its name. Following the expiration of his official term he returns to agricultural pursuits, his greatest interest being that of farm property.

Mulholland & Lake, staple and fancy groceries, has been in operation two years, dating from September, 1886. It is an enterprise growing out of a consolidation of the business capital of G.T. Lake, for twelve years a member of the firm of Whitlow & Lake, druggists, and of C. Mulholland, who had been in the grocery trade of Fayetteville six years. The gentleman whose name leads is a South Carolinian; has lived in the state eighteen years, and at Fayetteville eight years. G.T. Lake is a Tennessean, but of nineteen years residence in this county. His connection with the trade dates back to 1879. Sales in 1887, $60,000; average stock carried, $8,000.

C.B. Wall, attorney, was admitted to the bar at Mount Pleasant, Ia., and has been established at Fayetteville since 1880. His identification with this bar, however, dates his first entrance upon the practice of his profession. He couples with the regular practice the specialty of contest before the United States land department, Washington, D.C. and before the land office at Little Rock, this state. He ranks as the best posted authority in the state on United States lands—late decisions in his favor by the United States land commissioner going so far as to establish the fact. In addition to being the ex-mayor of the city, he is attorney for the Fayetteville Building and Loan association, and also local agent for the Springfield Insurance company of Massachusetts,

Niagara of New York City, American of Philadelphia, Fire association of Philadelphia and the Traveler's Life and Accident of Hartford.

B.H. Stone & Co., general merchants, is a business succession, illustrating the history of one of the oldest firms in the state, and in its origin dates back to 1845. The order of the succession is as follows: B.H. Stone & Co., 1880 to date; Stone, Albright & Co., 1873 to 1880; S.K. Stone & Co., 1865 to 1873; Stone & Cowdry, 1863 to 1865, and Stone & Holcombe, successors of S.K. Stone, who began in 1845. The members of the firm are B.H. and L.B. Stone, sons of S.K. Stone.

S.L. Kyle, farm implements and machinery, opened at this point in January of the present year. Before removing here he was established in the lumber trade in Northern Minnesota, and preceding that was in Winnipeg, Man. His location here in Northwest Arkansas was made equally upon grounds of the stride the region has taken in the matter of grain products, as upon its superior agricultural conditions in general; and accordingly affords a pointer to the change, as it is augury of good for the country. In addition to his own direct interest he has set in motion arrangements looking to the location at this point of a reliable grain dealer from Battle Creek, Ia., the upshot of which will not doubt lead to the concentration on Fayetteville of the grain products of the county, not to mention the erection of an elevator and large roller mill. He has 9000 square feet of floor space. On the side of harvesting machinery he makes a specialty of the Osborne make, and in agricultural implements a specialty of the Parin & Orendorf goods, Canton, Ill. They are also manufacturers agents for carriages, buggies, road cars, spring and farm wagons. The additional members of the firm are T.A. Cole and C D. Galbraith, both lately of St. Paul, Minn.

Wood & Co., popularly known as the Auction Store, was established in 1884, and is a house remarkable for its phenomenal success. According to the plan upon which it is conducted, of selling as low down as possible, it has become a fixed institution in the claim upon its patrons. The proprietor, J.P.Wood, has had control, save for a short time, since it was opened. He is from Memphis. Before his advent here he was for sixteen years commercial traveler for Chase & Cabot and for Dodd, Brown & Co., St. Louis. Sales in 1887, $50,000; average stock, $25,000. It is also to the gentleman's credit that he has been the first to cater to the public amusement of Fayetteville, being proprietor and manager of Wood's Opera house.

Wilson & Dickson, groceries and produce, dating from 1883, is a succession of W.C. Cardwell. Antedating their present association both of the gentlemen had been in the employ of Mulholland & White; formerly grocers of this place, and in consequence have in hand a full knowledge of their business, as well as trade in general. Sales in 1887, $35,000; average stock, $3,500. Both of the gentlemen are to the manor born, and personally and socially stand very high in the community.

W.H. Whitlow is the oldest establishment in its line in the city, and in all probability is the oldest surviving drug concern in Northwest Arkansas, having been in operation since 1870. The present style of the firm dates from March, 1886, before which for eleven years it had been Whitlow & Lake. The proprietor is a druggist by trade, having served under Dr. P.M. Cox, formerly of this city. He is from Booneville, Mo. His residence here dates from 1868.

McNabb & Rogers, produce dealers and dealers in wool, hides, furs and peltry, began in September, 1887. Before opening at this place they had been in business at Bolivar, Mo., three years. In their transactions while

making a specialty of no one line, they lead in the matter of eggs and poultry, the export volume of both from this point being greater than any in the state, Little Rock and Fort Smith not excepted. Their egg shipments average 600 dozen per week. The principal market to which they ship is St. Louis. Postoffice box 300. Telephone No. 49.

The Sweitzer Wagon Company has been operated sixteen months. It is an incorporated enterprise devoted exclusively to the manufacture and repair of wagons and carriages, and according to capital and opportunity of outlet has succeeded beyond all calculation. The capacity is 500 wagons per annum; output in 1887, 200 wagons; receipts in 1887, $12,500; value of plant, $10,000, operating capital $7,000. Number of hands, 10; weekly expense account, $240. President of company, B.R. Davidson; superintendent and secretary, Ellis Duncan.

The McClellan Furniture Manufactory has been running one year. They make a specialty of walnut, maple and cherry work, as well as manufacture all kinds of furniture, and in this city have put up superior office fixtures. The proprietors, J.C. and J.S. McClellan, are eastern men, and included under ten years' residence in the state, were formerly in the employ of the Little Rock Furniture company, the first having been foreman.

J.L. Duke, jeweler and watchmaker, opened at Fayetteville in 1886, and accordingly antedates all establishments of the kind in Northern Arkansas. He is from Louisiana, Mo., and following four years in the confederate army settled at this place. Sales in 1887, $6,000; average stock carried, $3,000.

J.D. Van Winkle, bookseller and stationer, has been established six years. Sales in 1887, $15,000; average stock, $7,000. The name of the gentleman will be recalled by the readers of *The Gazette* as also that of the great lumber king, Peter Van Winkle, whose son he is.

The young man sustains not only in his own business the standing the sire enjoyed, but is a strong man on the moral side of his own character.

Gregg & Smith, indigo and chemicals, dating from 1881, is a succession of Gregg & Hickman, who in turn had succeeded Gray & Hickman. Sales in 1887, $15,000; average stock $5,500. The member whose name leads, Dr. A.S. Gregg, is a graduate of the St. Louis Medical College, class of 1879. He is a son of the distinguished Judge Lafayette Gregg of this place. The other member, B.F. Smith, before his present business association had been general merchant at Fayetteville 14 years. He is from Jackson, Tennessee.

W.C. Cardwell, bookseller, stationery and fancy goods, has been in his present line 3 years, before which he had been 9 years in the grocery trade in the place. Sales in 1887, $15,000; average stock, $3,500. His enterprise is known as the City Book Store. He is to the manor born, and has been identified in different ways with the trade of Fayetteville 24 years.

W.B. Welch, M.D., University of Nashville, class of 1858, has been located in the county since 1859; at Cane Hill this county twenty-three years, and at Fayetteville six years. In addition to high professional rank he is the president of the Washington county bank, of which he was one of the projectors. He is from Allen county, Kentucky.

C.S. Gray, M.D., had been established at Fayetteville twelve years. In addition to special courses in 1881 and 1882 at Bellevue Medical college, he is a graduate of the St. Louis Medical college class of 1872. While one of the leading physicians in North Arkansas, he is also distinguished here at his home for high social character. He will be recalled at Little Rock as the accomplished gentleman who in 1886 won as wife, Miss Fannie Ashley, granddaughter of Senator Ashley. He is from Columbia, Mo.

Col. J.L. Cravens, secretary and treasurer of the board of trustees, Arkansas Industrial University, and filled that station since 1881. In this state no one stands higher in connection with the university, nor is there any one who has worked more faithfully to further its highest ends. He is a Missourian, from Carthage, but has been identified with this state and Fayetteville since 1866. He is also postmaster at this place. The writer owes him many thanks for courtesies.

I.W. Duncan, breeder of Galloway cattle and Berkshire hogs (formerly of the vicinity of Kansas City) has been located at Fayetteville eighteen months. The removal to this state is a step gained for Arkansas greater than appears on the surface. The conditions had been carefully investigated by the gentleman, and when deciding upon the transfer of his breeding interest to this region, it is to be accepted as a foregone conclusion that his famous herd of cattle had come to stay, and the mountain district of the state benefited by the step. He is a practical breeder. His herd numbers fifty head, ten of which are registered thoroughbreds, and the remainder crosses with the Shorthorn, in which latter departure he has been most successful. The bull heading the herd, Karl of Rougent, No. 706, was bred by James Cunningham, Dolbeattie, Scotland, and is a son of the famous show bull, "Hardin." Other thoroughbreds in his herd were bred by Thomas McCrae of Guelph, Canada, A.B. Matthews, Kansas city, C.W. James, Liberty, Mo., Philo Lasher, Coffeysburg, Mo., and others of his own breeding. His drove of Berkshire, the Gentry Rollins, Maxwell and Turkham strain. His stock farm, two miles from the city is 300 acres in extent. This is exclusive of his home seat and orchard.

Simmons & Ferguson, livery and transfer, commencing in April, is a purchase and consolidation of the interests of A.B. Kill and I.G. Combs of this place. According

to the consolidation and requirements of the double interest, it has come to the front as the largest and finest plant of the kind north of Little Rock and Fort Smith. It is especially the drummers' stables, and also the stable furnishing the most stylish teams for city use. From a conference with the firm and routes named for prospectors, it was agreed by the gentlemen that such visitors should have very lowest rates. Number of teams run by them 181; number of saddle horses, 8. The senior member, W.M. Simmons, is a stock dealer from Memphis. The junior member is G.T. Ferguson, a son of J.A. Ferguson of this place.

E.B. Harrison, handware, tinshop and plumbing, has been established since 1878. Sales in 1887, $35,000; average stock, $8,000. He is from Michigan and his identification with the state and with Fayetteville dates from 1886.

R.A. Miller, proprietor and manager of the Van Winkle House, became lease[e] of the famous hostelry in 1882, and since October last its sole owner. He is originally from Burksville, Ky. Before coming here he had been in charge of the Gidding's House, Carrolton, Mo. He is of the type of the landlord of tradition and song, and according to his geniality toward everyone, first-class table and good rooms, has made his hostlery as famous as the great Callahan stand was to visitors en route to Greenbrier White Sulphur. His house is the largest in the state north of the Arkansas river, excepting the Crescent of Eureka Springs.

Thomas Jennings, at present proprietor and manager, is also the builder and proprietor of the Mountain House, and was the pioneer in the construction of hotels equal to the increased daily arrivals and increased summer patronage of Fayetteville, of eighteen years time since its construction he has directly and conjointly controlled its management eleven years, which is the height

of his experience as a hotel keeper. The building is of brick, three stories high, and with a capacity of entertaining fifty guests. He is a Georgian, but before removing here in 1866 had resided in Texas eight years.

The Fayetteville Democrat was founded in 1868 by E.B. and W.B. Moore, the first named gentleman being Arkansas' present honorable secretary of state. The present editor and manager has been in charge since 1884, and is a member of the Fayetteville bar. He is to the manor born and is a graduate of the Arkansas Industrial University, class of 1879. The paper is true to its name being democratic to the core, and according to its lack of patience with mugwumps is fairly entitled to the distinction of uttering straightout democratic doctrine.

The Arkansas Sentinel, 13th volume, No. 27, was founded by the late J.R. Pettigrew, one of the Utah commissioners appointed by President Cleveland. The joint editors and proprietors are I.M. Patridge and H.R. Reagan. The first has been associated with the paper eight years, and was formerly connected as journalist with the press of Memphis and Vicksburg, Miss. The remaining partner is serving his first period of connection with the press.

The Fayetteville Republican has been established since July, 1886, before which it had been issued at West Fork, this county. The present control of Mr. Damon Clarke dates from January of this year and is a succession of Brooks & Clarke, who removed the paper to Fayetteville. Its proprietor and editor has been in the publishing business eight years, and as journalist three years. He is from Illinois, but before removal to this state has been working as journalist in Ohio, Michigan and Western Canada.

While here the writer has been placed under obligations to Hon. W.J. Patton formerly county and probate

judge of Pulaski county, this state. He has in the present instance verified his strong attachment for those of his former home at Little Rock, by the exercise of courtesies the writer has not before enjoyed during his work in the state. And yet with the most refined, and kindly tact has aided the writer most materially in the conclusion favorable to this county and Fayetteville. This is all the more to his credit for the reason that while loving Little Rock with all the devotion possible to his long residence in its midst, in his removal to Fayetteville he has returned to the scene of his boyhood and of his struggling young manhood—Washington county being in fact his birthplace.

It is but just to add of Judge Patton that what has been loss to his friends at Little Rock, when removing to Fayetteville has been given to his friends here, for of the two centers of the state this is the only one where there could have been brought into full play his great acquirement in letters, as well as his great acquirements as a naturalist. He resides in the city, but directs a farm owned by him, 200 acres in extent, 60 acres in orchard—situated a few miles distant from Fayetteville.

M.L. DeMalher."

Correspondent DeMalher began his report on Fayetteville by quoting a passage from Longfellow's "Evangeline" to give his readers a feeling for the beauty of the area. As quoted:

> "Slowly over the tops of the Ozark mountains the moon rose,
> Lighting the little tent, and with a mysterious splendor
> Touching the sombre[sic] leaves and embracing and filling the woodland.
> With a delicious sound the brook rushed by and the branches
> Swayed and sighed overhead in scarcely audible whispers."

According to DeMalher he felt the same rare effects

once he had departed the Frisco and set foot "where Arkansas' beautiful city of the mountains crowns the Ozarks." Reading his report more than 100 years after it was written brings to mind the poetry of Robert Burns:

> Oh wad some power the giftie gie us
> To see oursels as ithers see us! ❖

A Brief History of Fayetteville

In connection with a look at the Fayetteville of 1888, it is interesting to review the history of this same city from *Historic Fayetteville Arkansas—A Vacation Guide, 1956 edition*, complied by Kay Brumfield. According to this history, the Fayetteville Electric and Power Company listed above was organized in 1888 and the first railroad, the Frisco, had arrived only seven years earlier!

"Fayetteville was once part of what was known as Lovely's Purchase or Lovely County, because of an arrangement between a Major Lovely and the Osage Indians who claimed the land. Washington County was created by the Arkansas territorial legislature in 1828 when a treaty with the Cherokees removed them beyond the present Oklahoma state line and the residents of that territory were given land grants in this area to compensate them for the move. The county seat was pin-pointed on a map in the geographic center of Washington County which was much larger then than it is now. The county seat was first called Washington Court House but the name was changed to Fayetteville after about six months because of confusion with a Washington in south Arkansas. Two of the commissioners who located the county seat were from Fayetteville, Tennessee.

"At that time only six families lived here, but soon settlers from Cane Hill and Evansville, as well as from

Indian Territory, moved to town. In 1829 the first court was held in half of a log cabin. Other dates of interest — 1833, first school; 1835, Masonic Lodge chartered here, now the oldest in Arkansas; 1837, Washington County reduced to its present size and $5,000 brick court house built in Square; 1838, Fayetteville Female Seminary founded; 1839, Two story stone jail erected with dungeon walls 42 inches thick; 1839, Cherokees passed through here on "Trail of Tears"; 1840, first newspaper, *The Fayetteville Witness*; 1845, first legal hanging on what was later called Gallows Hill near present National Cemetery; 1852, first town council; 1854, a new court house replacing one that had burned; 1854, Arkansas College built on College Avenue; 1856, first fair held on the Square with race track around the court house; 1858, Butterfield Stage routed through Fayetteville; 1860, telegraph line from Jefferson City to Fort Smith came through via the old Wire Road; 1861, Civil War and town as part of border state and midway between Federal base at Springfield and Confederate position on Arkansas River was burned and ransacked by both the "Feds" and the "Rebs"; 1862, battle of Prairie Grove, 13 miles west of Fayetteville, 1863, battle of Fayetteville; 1864, General Fagan shelled the town from the west; 1871, Arkansas Industrial University (now the University of Arkansas); 1871, McIlroy Bank established, now the oldest bank in Arkansas; 1872, Washington County Medical Society; 1880, cyclone wiped out much of the Square; 1881, first railroad, now the Frisco; 1888, Fayetteville Electric Light and Power Company organized.

"More details of some facts will be found in the text describing points of interest on the city tour. We hope that the 20th century speaks for itself, and that this booklet will help you enjoy more thoroughly your visit to the Fayetteville of today." ❖

William Marion Tucker
Washington County's World War II Hero

by Lloyd O. Warren

In our culture it is commonplace to name roads, buildings, streets, etc., after individuals who have made significant contributions to the history of a given area. Thus it was appropriate when the local American Legion post was organized July 31, 1919, that it be known as the Lynn Shelton Post after Lynn Shelton who was the first casualty from Washington County in World War I. He died in France, May 28, 1918, while carrying a wounded buddy from the battlefield to safety.

December 7, 1941, was characterized by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as a day of infamy when the Japanese government mounted surprise attacks on U.S. installations in the Pacific Theater. The attacks resulted in severe damage and many casualties. Among those killed was Corporal William Marion Tucker, USMC, who lost his life on Wake Island. He was the first Marine from Washington County killed in action. Thus, the local American Legion has appropriately honored Tucker by re-naming Post 27 the Shelton-Tucker Legion Post and recognizing that both men gave their all in service to their country.

The Battle Setting

Wake Island atoll is made up of three small islands with a total land area of about four square miles. It is located 2000 miles west of Hawaii. The United States had taken possession of the atoll in 1898, but due to its coral-shoal soil character and the absence of fresh water little attention was given Wake until 1935. It was designated as one of the stops for the trans-Pacific clipper

flights with an operations station and a hotel for passengers traveling on the clipper planes.

In early 1941, the United States government decided to strengthen Wake for defensive purposes. A detachment of Marines along with 1200 civilian construction workers were assigned to the atoll to fortify the site and to construct an airfield and support facilities. By late November the airfield was ready to receive the first land-based planes assigned to Wake Island.

Among the personnel arriving from Hawaii November 29, 1941, was Corporal William Marion Tucker, aviation specialist. The following is his story—a story of one who barely reached manhood before he gave his all—his life for his country.

Tucker, The Person

William (Bill) Marion Tucker was born 12 April, 1919, at Crowder, Okla., the son of Roy Lewis and Myrl Tucker. The Tucker family resided in several states as Roy Tucker exploited employment opportunities when advantageous to family interests. Bill, as he was known to his close associates, graduated from the Western State Teachers High School at Bowling Green, Ky. He was a member of the football team and in his senior year made the winning touchdown in the last game of the season. His team-mates carried him off the field in celebration of his feat.

Bill Tucker, age 18

Bill's personal interests included playing tennis, swimming, reading western stories and listening to the

music of the "big band" era. Among his associates Bill was known as a gentle, kind and emotionally stable person with high ideals and a strong character.

The Tucker family moved to the Son's Chapel community in the late 1930s. The home was located a short distance off SR45 and was less than a mile from the parental home of Lynn Shelton, Washington County's World War I hero. Bill became personally acquainted with the parents and a brother, Thayer, of Lynn Shelton.

The military career of Bill Tucker began at Bowling Green, Ky., where he was a member of the Kentucky National Guard. Moving to Arkansas he was discharged from the Kentucky National Guard. Later, September 26, 1939, he enlisted as a private in the Arkansas National Guard, Batt. A., 142nd FA, at Fayetteville, Ark. During this same period he enrolled in the University of Arkansas as a student in mechanical engineering. Evidently he desired active military service as he began action to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. On December 2, 1939, he was sworn into the Marine Corps and was sent immediately to the Marine Corps Training Center at San Diego, Calif. He thus had to seek a discharge from the Arkansas National Guard which was granted December 4, with a rather laconic statement that Bill "had another permanent address."

Following basic training Bill was assigned to the Second Marine Air Group, Naval Air Station, San Diego, Calif., where he was trained in aircraft maintenance. In December, 1940 he was promoted to private first class and in January shipped to Pearl Harbor on the aircraft carrier Enterprise, arriving at Oahu, February 12, 1941. Here he was designated as aviation-specialist and promoted to the rank of corporal in May of 1941. Bill was assigned to Scout-Bombing Squadron 232, July 1, 1941.

In November, 1941 Tucker's squadron was assigned

to Wake Island and the service personnel were transported from Hawaii to Wake on the USS Wright, arriving there November 29, 1941 (Nov. 28, CST). The squadron's planes and pilots were ferried within flight distance to Wake on an aircraft carrier and dispatched to the island Dec. 4 (Dec. 3, CST). The maintenance facilities for the squadron were set up near the air strip carved out of the coral shoal of the atoll.

On arrival the squadron, now designated as Marfitron 211, proceeded to get settled and prepared for any eventuality. They had but few days to wait. About noon, December 8 (Dec. 7, CST), the Japanese mounted a surprise low-level bombing raid with 24 planes which had flown from enemy bases in the Marshall Islands. During this raid, Tucker was reportedly manning an anti-aircraft gun and was wounded and taken to the base hospital along with other casualties. The following day, again about noon time, a flight of 27 bombers struck the island defenses again but at a higher altitude. This raid concentrated on the civilian barracks, radio station, office areas, and the field hospital. Many patients wounded in the previous day's raid were killed, including William Marion Tucker.

On the night of Dec. 11 (Dec. 10, CST) the bodies of 80 Marines and civilians were prepared for burial and lowered into a common grave cut into the coral sand of the atoll. Thus ended the earthly existence of William Marion Tucker. His remains were never recovered and it is assumed that internments were destroyed during the Japanese occupation of the island.

For their heroic and courageous conduct in defending Wake Squadron 211 was cited by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In addition Tucker was awarded posthumously the Wake Expeditionary Medal, the Purple Heart, American Defense Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal

and the Victory Medal, World War II. These awards were given to his father, Roy Lewis Tucker. A marker stone in memory of William (or Bill), supplied by the U.S. government, was placed in a cemetery at Scottsville, Ky., where other family members are buried. In addition his name is listed on a memorial to Wake Island casualties in the Garden of the Missing, Oahu, Hawaii.

In his last letter to his father, written Dec. 4, 1941, Bill informed his family of his new station and expressed a strong desire to see his family. He further wrote that "he had a year and a little over 11 months to go before his time was up." That time was shortened to just five days, when the enemy raids took him from his squadron, his family and friends. Truly December 9, 1941, was a "day of infamy" as Bill and his buddies made the supreme sacrifice for our country.

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Memorial scrapbook and personal correspondence from Dorothy Marie Navarro, sister of Bill Tucker. (Scrapbook and service records are on file in the Shiloh Museum of the Ozarks, Springdale, Ark.)

Northwest Arkansas Times, Fayetteville, Ark., Dec. 27, 1941.

Service Records, William Marion Tucker, Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Mo. ❖

From Vol. VII, No. 6 of *Flashback*, Nov. 1957

"September 1958 will mark the 100th anniversary of the Butterfield Overland Mail's first trip from St. Louis to San Francisco, passing through northwest Arkansas. Plans are in the making for an observance of the centennial in the various towns through which it passed." That means that this year the Butterfield Trail is 140 years old! ❖

Rambling Down the Trail of Time

by Lula Mae Underhill (Johnson) Ragsdale

Part I

My father, Charles Edward "Charley" Underhill, was born December 14, 1877 in Tennessee, the son of James and Victoria Underhill. When he was about five years old in 1882 or 1883 they decided to move to Arkansas where the people Grandma lived with as a child (Uncle Tom Walker and his wife) had already moved. She didn't know what happened to her parents. So Grandma with her five or six children came by train to West Fork. Grandpa, who ran a tanning yard (making leather from animal skins) in Tennessee, came later. The Walker home was on the hill east of West Fork, north of Bloyd Mountain. The Underhills settled on the east hill above them. Grandpa had asthma and dropsy and died in 1902. He was a Union soldier in the Civil War. Grandma told stories about how bad things were in the South, how they parched blackberry leaves or sweet potatoes to make a drink to substitute for coffee, and how they got the dirt in the smokehouse where salt had dripped from the meat and boiled it to get the salt. The Underhill children attended school at Round Mountain. My father finished the seventh grade. After that, the boys had to do the farm work as Grandpa wasn't able.

Charley, my father, loved to ride horseback, and he went to parties and square dances all over the country. He wanted the best horse they had. He rode horseback so much he was bowlegged. My mother said he was so bowlegged he couldn't catch a hog in a ditch. He told a lot of stories about the things the Underhill boys and Harp boys did as they grew up together. Especially when the Harp boys' dad would go visiting. (Their mother was dead.) Things like roping young cattle and hooking

them to the wagon and playing cowboy stunts. He was taking a big fat girl that lived at Trace Branch home. They had to walk a foot log and she fell off the log and pulled him in the water with her. They almost drowned. When he was dating Lizzie (my mother), they were walking down the narrow, steep path between Mineral and the Skelton home and she was walking in front, dressed in a long full skirt, pinned on at the waist. He was walking behind, leading his horse, and he stepped on her skirt tail and pulled it off. They were both so embarrassed.

The Underhill boys liked to fox hunt, and they always had a bunch of hounds.

Here are a few things I remember about staying with Grandma and going to school in the tenth grade. She was a little short woman with a great big temper. She always wore a bonnet when she went outside or uptown. Her son, Ottie, and her grandson, Oral Bell, lived with her. They got water from the well in the front yard and heated and cooked with wood stoves. About five o'clock in the afternoon, smoke would arise from the stove pipes or flues as the women all over town made fires to prepare the evening meals. She had an outhouse and a barn for Ottie's cow. The barn was for the cow—not the outhouse. She did have electric lights. She used 25-watt bulbs. Oral's mother had died in the dreadful flu of 1918. Grandma's daughter (Gertie) and her granddaughter (Bill and Bell's little girl), Mary Bell, died the same night. Our family was lucky; we didn't get it.

Grandma took pneumonia and died in the winter of 1927. Oral lived with Ottie for a while. He was catching a ride on a freight train and fell off and was run over. They took his crushed leg off but he lived only a short time. He is buried at Mineral Springs by his mother. His leg is buried in one grave and his body in another. Ottie died a few years later. My Uncle Bill lived to be ninety-

eight. He worked at a lot of different jobs over the years. These included farming and running a livery barn (this is like a taxi with horses and buggies, instead of cars). My dad helped him sometimes. He, Bill, worked on the railroad, ran a grocery store and a restaurant in Ft. Smith – one-by-one.

My Dad

My dad, as well as all his brothers, were hard working honest men who like to talk and chew tobacco. My dad was a short, skinny man who could really turn out a lot of work. Whatever he did, he did a good job at it. He always told us, "Crowd your work. Don't let your work crowd you." I have found this to be good advice, but I don't always go by it. Most of his life, he did farming and worked in the timber to earn extra money. With that old cross cut saw and broadaxe, he made many ties. (They used them to build railroad tracks). He hauled them to West Fork or Woolsey and sold them at the tie yard. They were graded according to how good they were and their size. There was a wagon road down the mountain to Woolsey then. Woolsey was sometimes called "The Switch." The post office was Pitkin. My dad went to Kansas to work in the wheat harvest, and we missed him so much. I was a small child, but I was so happy when he came home. He was "Township Road Overseer,"

Charlie Underhill

for a number of years and worked on the highway when they were rebuilding it. That was about 1928 or 1929. He also worked on the W.P.A. in depression days. He served on the Mineral Springs School Board and Cemetery Board for a lot of years. He was a great Dad and we loved him dearly. He always thought of others before himself.

My Mother

Lizzie Ann Skelton Underhill, my mother, was born at Brentwood, January 2, 1879, the daughter of Henry Clay and Catherine Weir Skelton. Grandpa kept a store there when she was a tot. She said one time when she was quite small, she was trying to get some brown sugar out of the barrel in the store and fell in on her head. Her mother died with pneumonia when she was about five and Grandpa married Lillie Bashaw in 1885. She had a younger sister, Dissie, who died when she was small. She talked a lot about playing up and down Mill Creek with her cousin (Johnny Skelton) who was a few years younger. After the store, they lived near Baptist Ford a while. Then they moved to the Cherokee Nation where Grandpa hauled freight from Sallisaw to Whitefield. When Mae was old enough to go to school, they moved back to Arkansas. There were no bridges over the river

Lizzie Skelton Underhill

Lizzie and Charlie Underhill

at Ft. Smith and it was quite a problem to get across. She said the water came up in the wagon bed, and the quick sand was also very dangerous. After Grandpa and Lillie moved back to Mill Creek, he did small scale farming and timber work and owned a saw mill. They lived there for many years.

They lived in a log house before they built the frame house we knew (where Bill lived). Grandma Lillie had her tubs and a boiling pot down by the creek. There she did her laundry and carried the wet clothes up the hill to the house to hang them on the line. They carried water from a spring that was some distance north of the house. Grandma was a great cook and housekeeper, and she kept her yard and garden, and paths so neat and clean. She was a kind little lady who always had a smile for everyone. My mom said she never taught her to cook or do housework. She had rather do it herself as to tell her how to do anything. The last year or two before my mom married, she had a job at Brentwood, helping a dis-

abled woman (Liza Capps) and her husband. She was paid $1.00 a week and room and board. A short time before she was married she quit her job to go home to make quilts. Every girl had to have some quilts when she was married.

When my Mother was growing up she wore Brogan shoes and lintzy dresses, a tight laced corset, a heavily starched corset cover, and two or three heavily starched, ruffled petticoats that fastened at the waist. (No wonder women fainted.) There were yards and yards of cloth in a dress. They usually wore a hat. Mom said she weighed 98 lbs. when she was married. She was taller than the average girl. They were married Aug. 14, 1898 and moved nearby Grandpa and Grandma Underhill. Stella was born July 29, 1899 and George was born Dec. 25, 1901. They bought the little farm on Mineral Springs Mt. and moved there when George was a baby. They paid $300, paid out in $50-a-year payments. It was hard to save $50 per year back then. They lived there for over 50 years. Their other children were born there including the two babies that died. Della was born Dec. 27, 1912 and Hazel was born July 11, 1920. I was born August 6, 1909. We did a lot of work on that old place over the years. They moved to Fayetteville in 1956. They bought the house at 304 West St. in 1957. Mom died Jan. 13, 1961. My dad lived alone until he died Nov. 25, 1968. They are buried in the Mineral Springs Cemetery. The old house on the mountain is gone now.

My Sisters and Brother

STELLA was the first of my parents' seven children. She was born July 21, 1899. She was never a very strong child, but she did a lot of work, helping with Della and me when we were small and helping with the housework. My mother made us play outside, if the weather wasn't

bad. Stella was almost like a mother to me all through her life. She was so sweet and kind, but not very sociable with other people. She and Delmer courted for several years. World War I came up and he was called to go to the army, but the day before he was supposed to go, he went hunting and while crawling through a fence, he accidentally shot his toe off. He was in the army hospital at Little Rock during the war. They were married in 1919. They lived in Fayetteville, where he worked as switchman on railroad box cars. They moved to Mineral Mt. (the Buckner place) in 1924 where they lived a few years. Then they moved back to Fayetteville. A few years later, Delmer ran off with a 17-year-old girl, and they went to California, but when they got there she wanted to come back to her husband. Stella took him back and they lived happily ever after, but he lost his job, they lost their home, car, furniture, and everything they had. They lived with my parents for about a year. Then they moved to the John Kerley place and did some farming. The next year they moved to a farm at Greathouse Springs, and then they moved to Tulsa where he worked in a barber shop for a while. Then he drove a cab till he retired. They both died in 1976 and are buried in Memorial Gardens at Tulsa. They had no children.

GEORGE EBERT. I remember tagging around after George when I was small. I learned to play marbles and horseshoes, make cob pipes, and smoke rabbit tobacco. He told me there wasn't any Santa. He was almost eight years older than me. He was still going to school the first year I went, so I didn't have to go alone. After he was grown, he was a quiet turned guy that usually grunted before he spoke and chewed tobacco. He always worked hard and liked to cut wood and do farming. He married Mabel McDaniel in 1921. They had one child, Delmer Warren. They separated when he was about six months

old. He (George) lived with my parents until he married Gladys Caughman. They had five living children, George, Jr., Rex, Lucille, Helen, and Maxine. One baby died. George worked at Long Bell Lumber Co. at Springdale for a number of years. George, Gladys, and their baby are all buried in Mineral Springs Cemetery. George was a hard worker. He liked to cut wood with a chopping axe. He always had a big pile of wood ahead. My parents moved to the Gid Walker farm at West Fork at the beginning of 1928. It was just north of the White River bridge. George stayed at home from the time he and Mabel separated, till he married Gladys Caughman, so he helped my father farm. He also worked on the new highway. We lived there a couple of years, then moved back to our old home on Mineral Mountain. George was married that spring and moved to the Hugh Rieff place. They later moved to the Dunklin place. Warren lived with us till he was grown. He always seemed like a brother instead of a nephew. George and Gladys lived there till they moved to Wyoming. When they moved back to Arkansas, they bought a little farm near Springdale and lived there the rest of their lives.

LULA MAE. That's me. I was born Aug. 6, 1909 on the homestead my parents had bought and worked so hard to pay for. It was their home for more than 50 years. I was the fifth child in the family. My two brothers, Homer and Virgil, who were born between George and me had died in infancy. One of them was about 3 months old when he got measles and whooping cough and died.

Lula Mae Underhill Ragsdale

The other one was about one week old when he began having spasms and died. My mother thought it was because she got so scared over George having pneumonia. I never knew which was Homer and which was Virgil, nor did I know the dates of their births or deaths. This little farm house was located on the side of a beautiful hill about due east of Mineral Springs School and Cemetery. My parents and all my brothers are buried in that cemetery. Our old home was two log rooms, a lean-to with two small rooms, an attic where my younger sister, Della, and I played a lot – paper dolls mostly – especially in bad weather, and a front porch. People, at that time, sat on the porches a lot because it was cooler, but our favorite spot was around the water well from which we drew water with a bucket tied onto a rope. This nice cool spot was surrounded by three beautiful sugar maples and three gnarled oaks and a swing and seats. The family and friends would gather to feast on watermelons, muskmelons and various fruits. Once in a great while we would have home made ice cream. Oh! it was so good. Ice cream doesn't taste that good anymore – neither do bananas. In this same spot we did our laundry. We scrubbed our clothes on the rub board and boiled them in an old iron pot with lye soap or yellow soap.

DELLA was born Dec. 27, 1912. She was three years and four months younger than me. We were always very close. I don't remember that we ever had a fight—maybe quarrels. We were not only sisters but we were the best of friends. That is one reason I didn't like school my first year. I wanted to stay at home and play with my little sister. I liked to go when she was old enough to go with me. Della and Lena were good friends, till Lena died. (That was Leo's sister). Della and Mildred Shepherd (Malone) were best of friends for a long time. They built all kinds of air castles in their minds. Della almost

died with diphtheria when she was in grade school. I had it too, but it didn't hurt me that bad. I think I got it from my cats. We were always glad for Mildred to come to visit. I have known her so long, she seems like family.

At West Fork, Della and Pauline Walker were good friends. Della and I were saved in the Assembly of God Church at West Fork in the fall of 1929 or 1930. We were baptized in the river in December by Monte Walker. The water was really cold. Della started holding revival meetings at various places the next summer. She was holding a revival meeting at Sulphur City where she met Calvin Lewis. He was saved and baptized by her. They were married the next fall. They lived on the old Hanshew Place—just east of Trace Valley School for a while. Juanita was born there. I would walk over there, spend the day and walk home. We would enjoy the day so much. Then, they moved to the Herschel Rogers Place. Frances and Virginia were born there. Calvin's mother died there. After that they moved to the place across the hill where Beecher and I lived when we were first married. Jim was born there. There is only a few days difference in the ages of Don and Jim. In the fall of 1943 they moved to Broken Arrow, Okla. I sure missed them when they moved. Jerry, Dean, Bill and Donnie were born there. Calvin worked at Boeing (Douglas) Aircraft till he retired. Della was in a wheel chair for quite a while before she died, but she got around and did her housework and kept happy. They are both buried in the Memorial Gardens in Tulsa. Della was an excellent cook—even when she was in her teens. In depression days when food was scarce, my mother told her to make a large bowl of chocolate pudding, but she ended up with two bowls full, so she took one and dumped it over the hill. She didn't tell my mom about it for a while.

HAZEL VICTORIA was born July 11, 1920. We were all so happy about her. She was a blue-eyed, dark haired bundle of joy. Mom made her several fancy dresses with tucks and lace and hemstitching and one with bought embroidered material. They bought her a baby coat that cost twenty dollars. That was a lot at that time, but it was "The Roaring Twenties." People had more money than they had in the thirties. She was a sweet little girl with a great big temper. One day when mom was sick in bed (when Hazel was about two), she started down the road pulling an old dishpan with a string tied to it. Mom started after her, barefooted, and she couldn't catch her till she ran about a quarter of a mile. She wouldn't have stopped then, but she met us coming from school. She would wake up and come out of bed at night, saying "I

Hazel, Pop (Charlie Underhill), Warren, and Rover

want Sissie." My dad would wake me, and I would have to get up and carry her on my back till she went to sleep. Later on, Della and I had to take her and Warren almost every place we went. Sometimes we carried a lantern. At Mineral, Hazel and Esther were friends together. Mr. Brown was a nice old man with a Model T Ford. He would take us wherever we wanted to go, but the old car always stalled on a hill. We had to push it up every hill we came to. Hazel and I would walk to West Fork for her to take music lessons. We walked all over the country, including to the Sunday School Rally at Parker Branch near Middle Fork. The summer before Don was born, we picked raspberries for Mr. Reynolds and walked across the hill over by where Della and Calvin lived. One day we each carried a sixteen-quart crate of berries all the way home. I didn't think we were ever going to make it. Another day, it came up a rain and wind storm as we came home. So we sat under a tree way over there in the woods and ate our lunch—peanut butter and crackers. The wind was blowing and it was really raining. A few years later she married Cecil Vaught. He was in World War II. They have two sons, Bob and Clinton. They are happily retired and live on Edwards Road. I am always happy for them to come visit and appreciate the fresh vegetables they bring me from their garden in the summer. They keep busy all the time. They have made a number of very beautiful quilts and have beautiful flowers in their yard.

The conclusion of "Rambling Down the Trail of Time," Part II, will be in the November 1998 issue of *Flashback*. It will contain more memories of Lula Underhill Ragsdale—her parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters—and their experiences at home and at school in Washington County. ❖

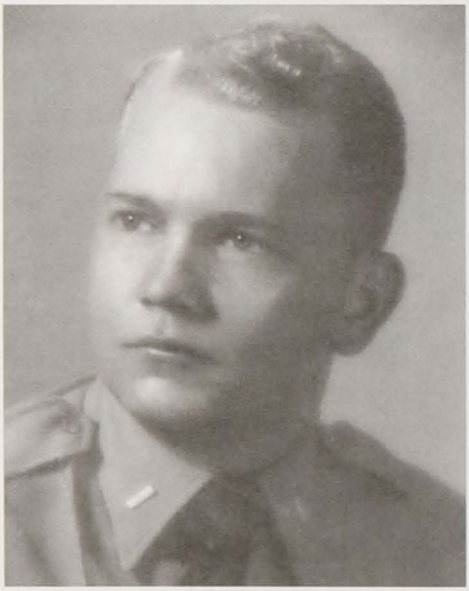
John W. "Bill" Vinzant

B-29 Pilot to Family Physician

by John W. Vinzant and Keith Newhouse

Born the oldest of five children in Ratcliff, Ark., May 9, 1924, son of the county agent, William B. Vinzant and wife Mittie Glaze Vinzant. His father shortly moved to Sheridan in Grant County. In due time, the family added a brother, Charles Dale, now living in North Little Rock, plus three sisters. Sister Ruth Chestnutt became office manager in Bill's clinic at 22 E. Spring Street in Fayetteville. Rachel William and Nancy Trig filled out the family roster.

Like so many eighteen-year-olds who felt the draft on their necks, Bill decided to join the Army Air Corps—better to fly over than foot slog through World War II. He left pre-med school to join up in Little Rock December 8, 1942, and was sent to Wichita Falls, Texas, for cadet physical examinations and cadet introduction to army life. His selection for pilot training took him to Fort Hayes, Kans. Following completion of schooling at Fort Hayes, he was sent to the classification center at Lackland, Texas, where he finished in April of 1943. He moved on to Perrin Air Force Base for his basic flying course which consisted of 130 hours in



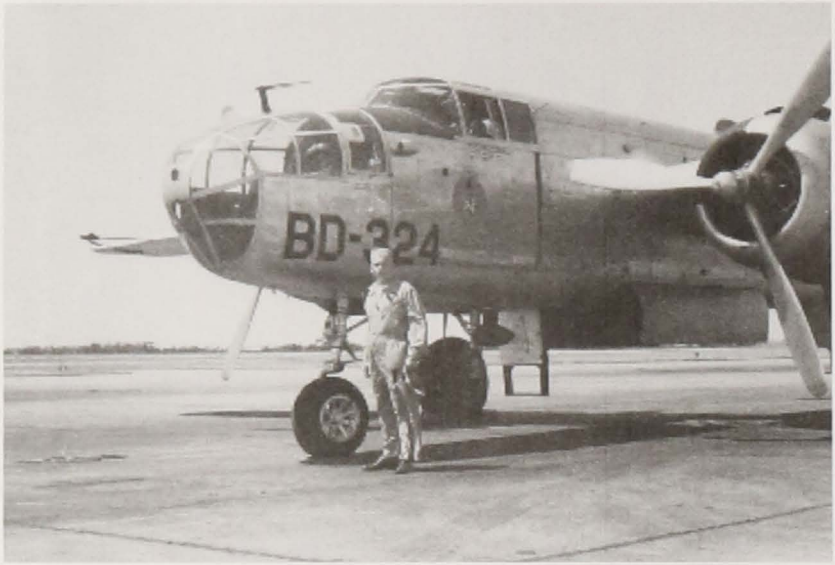
Lt. John W. "Bill" Vinzant

At Perrin Air Force Base these cadets were involved in training with the AT-6 single-engine trainer. Cadet Vinzant is on the left.

North American AT-6 single-engine planes. He soloed at about 27 hours.

Upon graduation in June, he went to Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Okla. There he was trained in twin engine B-25s with twin tail. One hundred and thirty-six hours flying time granted him class 43-H graduation. Then on to Buckley, Colo., for transition work of twenty hours apiece in B-24s and B-17s during February and March 1944.

His next stop was Barksdale Field where B-26 twin-engine medium bombers had been based earlier, but which was then serving as a B-29 base, and got acquainted with this latest heavy bomber. Once his training there was completed, he was sent to Lincoln, Neb., to be assigned a crew of eleven, as follows: co-pilot, Wayne Crow; navigator, Edward Abrams; bombardier, Zimmerman; flight engineer, Hank Claggett; radar operator, Parthe; radio operator, O'Toole; tailgunner, Martin; left



This picture was made in 1951 at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Okla. Bill Vinzant is standing in front of a B-25 medium bomber.

and right scanners, two men; and central fire control gunner, one man.

In early June, 1945, he and his crew went by train from Topeka, Kans., to Hamilton Field (just north of San Francisco). There he was assigned a brand new B-29 and given orders to fly over the Pacific, to wind up finally at Guam. It was quite an island-hopping journey, with check ins and stops at Hawaii, Johnson Island to refuel, Kwajalein, Eniwetok, plus Saipan.

He was assigned to the 73rd Bomb Wing, 500 Bomb Group, 883rd Squadron. His plane's tail carried a big "Z" as insignia. From Saipan he put in eight bombing missions with incendiaries over Kobe and Osaka. The fire storms over these cities killed as many Japanese as the Hiroshima and Nagasaki big bombs, although the latter are always given full credit for bringing the Japanese military to its knees.

Bill and his crew flew four additional aid missions to

This air refueling crew was based at Lakenheath Base in Brandon, England in 1952. Vinzant is third man on back row with .45 cal. pistol.

drop food and medical supplies to the Japanese-held prisoners located in camps in Japan and at a race track on Formosa. Huge barrels were parachuted in to make a rapid rescue, but some of the suffering were killed by the drop. Those trips were made August 16 to September 2-4, until the Japanese surrendered to MacArthur aboard the battleship Missouri.

Vinzant continued his service at Guam until February, 1946, when he was shipped to San Pedro, Calif., and on to Fort Chaffee at Fort Smith, Ark., where he was made a civilian March 2, 1946. He immediately returned to pre-med school at the U of A in Fayetteville, graduating from there January 27, 1950.

Because he was still in the reserves, he had further work in the Korean War, doing refueling of B-29s in the

air for General LeMay, flying out of Savannah, Ga. This stint lasted eighteen months, including three months in England in 1952.

June 3, 1953 found him out of service and back in Little Rock for medical school. He graduated June 9, 1957. July 1, 1957 he began his interneship, followed by residency until July-August 1960, working in a Pine Bluff clinic.

He began his practice at 22 East Spring Street, Fayetteville, September 6, 1960, with partner Rodney Baker, who, after twelve years, moved to Little Rock to join the Veterans Hospital there.

Dr. Vinzant has three children: Sara (b. Jan. 23, 1953), John R. (b. Sep. 4, 1955), and Thomas Cary (b. May 11, 1963). He built an admirable reputation as a caring family physician, and in addition, served as county coroner for eight years (1966-1974). To his many patients' regrets, he retired on June 12, 1993.

[Editor's note: Dr. Vinzant also served well as my family's doctor for about twenty years. - D.E.S.] ❖

From the Aug. 1955 issue of *Flashback* — The discovery of a metal casket on the University campus, by workmen digging a trench at the corner of W. Maple and Garland, revived interest in the old family cemeteries that used to dot the outskirts of Fayetteville. The bones found in this latest grave are believed to be those of a member of the Taff family. Sixteen of the Taff family graves were removed by the University in 1926. *FLASHBACK* hopes to publish, in an early issue, an article on the removal of this and other old burial grounds of Washington County. ❖

Cousins Return to County for Reunion

1440 N. Rosedale Ave
Tulsa, OK 74127-3129
4 Oct., 1997

Dear FLASHBACK Editor:

The weekend of October 25-29 [perhaps Sept. 25-29] *some ten first cousins descended on Washington County where many of our maternal ancestors lived all these years ago. One of the parents of each of the group were grandchildren of Nicholas Johnson Horn and Cora Ann Cardwell. Cora Ann was daughter of Franklin Adison Cardwell and Teresa Catherine Roberts. Franklin Adison was son of William H. Cardwell and Delaney Gregg, dau. of Henry Gregg, son of Samuel Gregg.*

Our cousin group were from California, Florida, Nevada, Oklahoma, Texas, and Washington. Some had never before visited Washington County. (One of the group has remained in Springdale.) We were all in same motel in Springdale and spent part of two days visiting cemeteries where our ancestors lie resting. These cemeteries include: Evergreen in Fayetteville, Friendship, Gehrings Chapel, Sons Chapel, & Zion. We found all these cemeteries kept in excellent condition with the exception of Gehrings Chapel which is in a deplorable condition. Most of our Cardwell monuments have been broken into several pieces, some recently. The monument of our Revolutionary ancestor, Samuel Gregg, is leaning badly. This monument was erected as I remember in the 1930's by D.A.C. and D.A.R. chapters. I was also disappointed to see the fence has been removed.

On a brighter note the cousins were amazed to see the progress in the area. They could not believe this was the same area they had heard their parents talk about in the years gone by. Most had gone west in the 1920's.

A lot of film was exposed and I expect Washington County will be discussed fondly in the future years.

We also attended homecoming at Zion Church-School where

many of our ancestors attended since being the church [began] *some 140 years ago. Some of our ancestors were charter members of Zion M. E. Church South. I am pleased to report that is the church I attended in my growing years.*

Sincerely,
Robert D. Plumlee ❖

Update on Black Oak Cemetery #2

Dear Flashback *editor:*

This is in response to the listing for Black Oak Cemetery #2 on page 16 of the Cemeteries of Washington County Arkansas, Volume XII, *dated Summer 1995.*

It states, "The Flashback *of May 1954, published by the Washington County Historical Society, describes this 'century-old burying ground' as 'difficult to access'. What was true in 1954 is still true today more than forty years later. There was no road to the Cemetery then and there is none now."*

I would like to make a statement about this century-old cemetery. There is and always has been a road into the cemetery. It has three acres and about 300 burials.

For several years the road has been closed off, but the road is passable now. You go down Ark. State 265 south and turn right on to 203 up a mountain to County Road 243, then thru two locked gates. It is about 3/4 mile from County 203. We have a good road in now. You will need to get keys to the locks from the County Judge.

Joy Kelly
3461 Pear Lane
Fayetteville, AR 72701

P.S. All donations for this cemetery may be sent to Joy Kelly at the above address. ❖

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Here is the Scoop on the Ice Cream Social

The 28th Annual Washington County Historical Society Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 1998 on the lawn of Headquarters House, 118 East Dickson in Fayetteville. It will once again be three hours full of family fun, entertainment and, of course, ice cream and cake!

Come rain or shine! Our rain location is the covered parking lot at the Court House.

This year's Social will take place from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and will feature musical performances, antique autos on display, a collectables bazaar, and special historical replica items for sale.

The very special entertainment this year will be the well-known singer and musician, Jed Clampit.

Items for sale at the Ice Cream Social include old postcards of Arkansas, with emphasis on Northwest Arkansas, attic treasures and collectables, WCHS books, one-of-a-kind used books, and unique miniature plaques featuring replicas of historic buildings.

The price of admission to the Annual Ice Cream Social is only $5 for adults and $2 for children under 12. Included in these modest prices are all the ice cream and homemade cake you can eat, great fellowship, and some very special entertainment. Again this year the ice cream will be furnished by Hiland Dairy.

Proceeds from the event will help maintain Headquarters House and keep it available as a historic museum as a link to the past in Washington County and as a tool to assist in teaching hundreds of school children who tour the house each year.

If you have them, come dressed in your finest 19th Century fashions. The Ice Cream Social is a family event you don't want to miss!

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Washington County Historical Society
118 East Dickson
Fayetteville, AR 72701

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Fayetteville ar 72701